

TRANSFER AGREEMENT WITH GUARANTEED ADMISSION BETWEEN VIRGINIA STATE UNIVERSITY AND THE VIRGINIA COMMUNITY COLLEGE SYSTEM

In accordance with the Virginia State Policy on Transfer, the Virginia Community College System (VCCS) and Virginia State University (VSU) recognize the need for and importance of facilitating the transfer of students from one institution to the other as they pursue their educational goals. The VCCS and Virginia State University enter into this agreement to provide all students with an opportunity for guaranteed admission to the university. VCCS students who do not meet the requirements described herein are encouraged to apply and may be considered for admission under the regular admission procedures of the University.

This agreement supersedes all previous agreements between Virginia State University and the Virginia Community College System signed prior to June 1, 2022. It does not nullify individual program-to-program agreements articulated since this date.

Section 1: Definition of Guaranteed Admission Agreement (GAA)

An agreement between a two-year institution or the VCCS (system office) on behalf of community colleges and a four-year institution according to which a student is guaranteed admission to the four-year institution by earning a transfer degree or a specified applied degree and satisfying specified academic benchmarks and criteria. Students transferring under a general admission GAA are not necessarily entitled to be admitted to a specific program. GAAs should be state-level agreements.

Section 2: Requirements for Admission

A. Applicable Associate Degrees:

Transfer-oriented associate degrees include Associate of Arts (AA), Associate of Science (AS), and Associate of Arts & Sciences (AA&S) degrees identified by the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia (SCHEV) as university-parallel transfer degrees. Only those AS or AA&S in General Studies degrees identified by SCHEV as transfer degrees qualify for this VSU GAA (see <https://www.schev.edu/home/showpublisheddocument/298/637807416962200000> for a list of approved General Studies degrees).

B. Minimum GPA requirement:

A minimum cumulative GPA requirement of 2.0 or higher on a four-point scale (as computed under VCCS policy). If a student repeats a course and receives a grade of "C" or higher, the course will transfer to VSU. Courses transferred into the two-year college are not included in the GPA calculation. Students will need to submit official transcripts for all institutions attended.

C. Limitations due to academic or disciplinary record:

VSU reserves the right to deny admission to students who have been academically or non-academically suspended from previous institutions.

D. Course requirements:

A grade of "C" or higher is required for the community college course to transfer. If a student repeats a course and receives a grade of "C" or higher, the course will transfer.

E. Minimum credits to be completed at associate degree institution:

Students must earn a minimum of 30 credits of the total required for a transfer-oriented degree from the VCCS institution. Students who have attended VSU and return to the VCCS to complete a transfer-oriented associate degree are eligible to participate in the GAA.

F. Maximum credits applicable for transfer:

90 credits

G. Testing requirements:

There are no standardized testing requirements.

H. Admission application and enrollment:

Students should apply online for admission by the university application deadlines; Fall –June 1; Spring –Dec. 1.

- I. **Transcript submission:** Students are required to provide an official transcript with the Transfer Application. Students must submit an official transcript including all final grades and documentation of the conferred associate degree within one month of enrollment at VSU.
- J. **Registration of Intent to use the agreement:**
No registration of intent is needed.

Section 3: Application of Associate Degree to General Education Requirement

Completion of an Associate of Arts, Associate of Science or Associate of Arts & Sciences transfer degree will satisfy all lower division general education requirements for Virginia State University. Additional courses may be required to fulfill any general education courses that did not transfer due to an earned grade of a “D” or “F”.

Section 4: Application of this Agreement to Students Earning Associate Degree Concurrent with High School

This GAA will be honored for students who earn an associate degree concurrently with a high school diploma through a dual enrollment program.

Section 5: Applications of this Agreement to Students Earning Credit for Prior Learning

A student who completes the associate degree with CLEP, IB, AP or ACE/Joint Services credit is eligible to transfer under this GAA and receives the benefits of the GAA when they transfer. Specific credit for Advanced Placement (AP) and International Baccalaureate (IB) will be determined based on VSU equivalent courses and standards. Official transcripts must be sent to VSU to receive credit. Specific information regarding credit for prior learning is available in the VSU Undergraduate Catalog at the following VSU website:

<https://www.vsu.edu/academics/academic-catalog.php>

Section 6: Associate Degree Completion Criteria and Catalog Determination

VSU will honor the degree requirements of the VSU Undergraduate Catalog in effect at the time of the student’s first post-high school enrollment into an appropriate associate degree at the VCCS institution. Upon request, students can opt to use the catalog in effect at the time of enrollment at VSU. Students who maintain continuous enrollment at the two-year institution have a maximum of four years from their first enrollment at the institution.

Section 7: Transfer Guide – Student Document

The associated Transfer Guide represents all requirements for admittance under this GAA and the benefits that result. The Transfer Guide will be applied, once development is complete, as the student-facing document for this agreement. Major-specific transfer guides will be developed and featured at the Transfer Virginia portal (<https://www.transfervirginia.org/>). Students should check the Transfer Guidance section of those transfer guides to understand whether admission into the university also guarantees admission into their major or program of choice.

Section 8: Administration of Agreement

The Virginia State University official responsible for all Virginia State University aspects of the GAA and is the Director of Transfer Student Services or designee. The VCCS official responsible for all VCCS aspects of the GAA is the Senior Vice Chancellor for Academic and Workforce Programs or designee, in consultation with the Guaranteed Admission Review Committee of the VCCS Academic and Student Affairs Council.

This agreement will remain in effect until modified or terminated. This Agreement may be modified only by mutual agreement by the VCCS Chancellor and President of Virginia State University. Termination may be made by either party upon one (1) year prior written notice. Students who register their intent to use this agreement through the Transfer Virginia portal under the GAA prior to the date of termination are eligible for admission for two years after termination becomes effective.

The effective date of this Agreement is the date last signed by the President of Virginia State University and the VCCS Chancellor. The signed Agreement will be maintained in the Transfer Virginia Portal.

VCCS Responsibilities

- Submit a PDF of the official signed Agreement to the Portal Coordinator.
- Use portal data to track which four-year institutions students are targeting for the GAA and provide support to students.

University Responsibilities

- Use portal and internal data to track students who register their intent to use the GAA. Use this data to maintain ability to honor agreement in respect to enrollment capacities.
- 4-year institutions use portal data to track students who register their intent to use this agreement and engage with students to best prepare students for transfer.

Section 9: Review Clause

Virginia State University and the Virginia Community College System will review this agreement and the student tracking data every three years to adjust as deemed appropriate to maintain its integrity and value and for the improvement of the transfer process. Changes will not be applied retroactively to students already enrolled or registered under the provisions of the existing GAA.

If no changes are necessary, the documented review below will extend this agreement for an additional three years.

Signatures

Dr. Donald E. Palm,
Executive Vice President
and Provost
Virginia State University

Date

Sharon Morrissey 3/28/2023

Sharon Morrissey **Date**
Interim Chancellor
Virginia Community College System

Review Documentation

Review Date	Completed By	Agreement Extension

Note: Recorded by the VCCS, shared with senior institution, and updated in the Transfer Virginia Portal

Appendix A: Transfer Guide Mapped to Undeclared Major for VSU: The Transfer Guide will be applied once development is complete.